

Universidade de São Paulo's International Office (VRERI-USP) aims to enhance USP's ever growing global presence. It does so not only by enabling the mobility of students, researchers, faculty and staff members, but also by creating the conditions for USP to disseminate its prolific research to an international audience, and to ensure that the academic body is familiar with and benefits from the most innovative discoveries from around the world. This exchange process is mutually profitable. As a consequence, each school has its own local International Office (which are called CRIInts) offering targeted support for its members.

USP consistently appears in some of the most important world university rankings. In the 2012-13 Times Higher Education World University Rankings, which evaluates world class institutions in terms of teaching, research, knowledge transfer and international outlook, it ranks well within the top 200 (158th). Furthermore, the 2012 SIR Global Ranking presents Universidade de São Paulo as the 11th university in the world with respect to scientific production and international collaboration, and in the 2013 SIR Iberoamerican Ranking and the QS Latin American University Rankings, USP appears on first place, as the top university in Latin America.

The performance of the International Office is of major relevance to Universidade de São Paulo, since internationalization is one of its key goals. The university welcomes people from all continents and stimulates this process via networks and consortia. Currently, USP has over 800 international agreements signed with several institutions all over the world. Students and faculty members enjoy a multicultural environment with people from different cultural backgrounds.

VRERI's main tasks are:

- to promote the mobility of USP's community members, by enhancing cooperation with other universities and supporting its logistics;
- to assist international students, faculty members and researchers before and during their stay at USP;
- to handle the international academic agreements that Universidade de São Paulo participates.



Cecilia Bastos



Paulo Soares



Cato Albuquerque

Alongside university teaching and community service, research remains one of USP's primary activities. Indeed, USP is a research-led institution, and since its foundation it has maintained a leadership role in Brazilian scientific and scholarly production. The university benefits from the continuous improvement of its interdisciplinary research centers in collaboration with international partners.

The numbers speak for themselves: USP is a major performer, not only on a Brazilian or Latin American scale, but also worldwide. Brazil is a major contributor to science and scholarship globally, and, as already noted, USP alone is responsible for around 23% of all Brazilian academic output. Almost 6,000 faculty members at USP are research active. In 2013, 26,704 publications\* - comprising journal articles, books and papers - were launched. The university has 2,100 research groups in all areas of knowledge and it has established the USP Innovation Agency (Agência USP de Inovação), whose mission is to promote the use of the scientific, technological and cultural knowledge produced by USP to benefit both the state of São Paulo and the whole country. USP has a formidable national and international reputation in applied and pure research, in all fields of knowledge. Its contribution to society is evident in the development of maritime oil platforms, research into human genetics and degenerative diseases in particular, advances in digital television, and the construction of a reservoir used to investigate the behavior of floating structures.

2013 - Produced and edited by Communications Area / USP International Office



Adilson Manoel Godoy



Cecilia Bastos



Francisco Emolo



Cecilia Bastos

\* Source: USP in Numbers 2013



Archive OSUSP

Universidade de São Paulo offers various cultural events and outreach activities for its students and for the wider community as well. For example, the São Paulo main *campus* (Cidade Universitária) houses the Museum of Contemporary Art (MAC – Museu de Arte Contemporânea) and the Museum of Archaeology and Ethnology (MAE – Museu de Arqueologia e Etnologia), both with free entrance. Inside this *campus* there is also a movie theater (Cinusp Paulo Emílio), a movie theater with two free movie sessions a day, often followed by debates and seminars with professors and directors. In the “Cidade Universitária” amphitheater there are often significant artistic events, such as monthly free performances by USP’s own Symphony Orchestra (OSUSP - Orquestra Sinfônica da USP).

All over the city of São Paulo there are other important cultural centers maintained by USP, such as the Paulista Museum (MP – Museu Paulista) and the Museum of Zoology (MZ – Museu de Zoologia), as well as the Science Station (Estação Ciência) and “Maria Antônia” University Center (Centro Universitário Maria Antônia). And cultural initiatives are not restricted to the state capital: there is, for example, the Republican Museum in the city of Itu, among several others.

Besides cultural and leisure attractions, USP runs several hospitals and public services that directly benefit the population. The activities - usually free of charge - range from science and culture to innovative health care and therapy. There are also sports practice centers, theaters and courses that are open to the community in general and sometimes to a specific public, such as the elderly.



José Rosael



José Rosael/Hélio Nobre

USP *campi* offer not only a number of high quality educational programs, but also a varied infrastructure that comprises laboratories, libraries, sports and recreational areas, transportation services, restaurants and cafes, public services and many other facilities. The university also provides student housing, though only for regular students who are accepted after a socio-economic evaluation. These aspects put USP at a high level among the Brazilian universities.

USP's largest *campi* have their own transportation services as a complement to the transportation system of the city where they are located: it happens in São Paulo (Cidade Universitária), Pirassununga, São Carlos and Ribeirão Preto *campi*. The facilities in some of the *campi* include bus transportation, a bicycle sharing system, as well as urban services, such as bus and train/subway transportation, providing accessibility to the *campi*.

Many USP *campi* have sports centers and recreational activities, offering all USP community members with leisure facilities and the opportunity to enhance their quality of life in their free time. Each *campus* also has cafeterias with low prices for students and associates.

USP has a library system called SIBi (Sistema Integrado de Bibliotecas – Integrated Libraries System), which grants the entire university community easy access to the collection of each school. All schools also have access to wireless Internet, as well as rooms with computer access to Internet and specific software.

To support exchange students facing possible challenges of adaptation, USP has developed USP iFriends, a program which puts volunteer USP students in contact with their foreign colleagues to support them in their university activities, improving the integration between international students and the academic community.

All *campi* have branches and/or ATM machines of many national banks. Some of them also have post offices.



Archive FEA



Cecilia Bastos



João Neves

Universidade de São Paulo offers 239 graduate programs\* in all areas of knowledge: agricultural sciences, life sciences, health sciences, exact sciences, earth sciences, applied social sciences, engineering, humanities, linguistics, literature and arts, and multidisciplinary courses. USP's provision corresponds to about 10% of all graduate programs in Brazil and 15% of all graduate students in the country: in 2013, there were 28,498 students regularly enrolled in graduate programs at USP. According to the 2012 ARWU (Academic Ranking of World Universities), USP awards the largest number of Doctoral Degrees in the world.

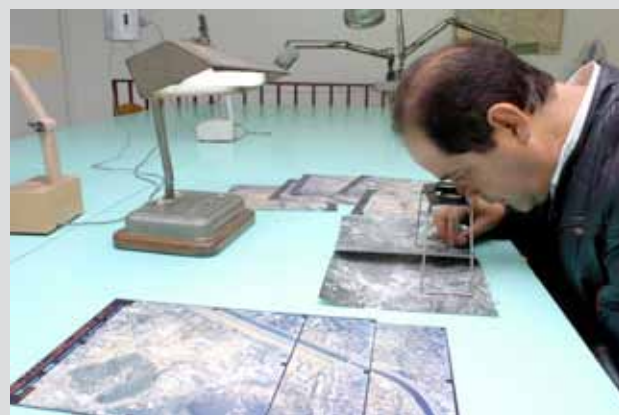
The programs have as a common objective the fostering of highly qualified human resources, with a focus on teaching, research and scientific/ technological development. Most of the classes are held in Portuguese, although in some areas there may be classes in English too.

The graduate programs can be offered by a specific school, by many schools (named interschools) or even by many institutions of higher education (named interinstitutions). It is also possible for students to undertake part of their studies abroad. Each school has a graduate committee which is responsible for the organization of the programs and the selection of students for the Master's and Doctor's degree. Prospective students or those interested in exchange programs abroad are referred directly to the school, faculty or institute website for further information.

In 2011, USP celebrated 100,000 graduate awards, a highly important milestone in the history of the institution.



Cecilia Bastos



Francisco Emolo



Cecilia Bastos

\* Source: USP in Numbers 2013

# Undergraduate



USP is the largest university in Brazil, offering a wide variety of comprehensive undergraduate courses in the areas of agricultural sciences, life sciences, health sciences, exact and earth sciences, applied social sciences, engineering, humanities, linguistics, literature and arts, as well as multidisciplinary courses. Most of the classes are held in Portuguese, although in some areas there may be classes in English too. USP has a total of 249 undergraduate courses\* and some of them can be undertaken in more than one school. It is also possible to study in a foreign partner institution for up to four semesters. In 2012, 1,829 USP undergraduate students went abroad on exchange programs.

Yearly, on average, 11,000 students enter an undergraduate course at USP. Regular students are admitted to USP in three different ways: the majority are selected on the basis of an admission test called the “vestibular” (organized by FUVEST), while others are admitted via a transfer from another institution, or through the Program for Partner Undergraduate Students (PEC-G).

Because of the university’s high reputation, USP undergraduate students can easily find job and research opportunities in their respective areas after they graduate. The university provides about 8,000 newly qualified professionals each year.

Students can also start developing research while they are still taking their undergraduate courses by doing an undergraduate research project, supervised by a professor in the area of their choice. Enrolled students may also attend courses in other disciplines if there are vacancies. Irrespective of the course area, the student will be in contact with world-class professors, professionals and staff, and they will also have opportunities to work with them. USP also regularly offers its students the opportunity to attend cultural events, conferences and distinguished lectures.



Cecília Bastos



João Neves



Natália Dourado



Mariana Chama

\* Source: USP in Numbers 2013